



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re the application of ) Examiner: Uyen T. Ho  
Vonderwalde et al. )  
For: **STENT WITH COVER CONNECTORS** ) Group Art Unit: 3731  
Serial No.: 09/522,336 ) Customer No.: 23422  
Filed: March 9, 2000 )  
Atty. Docket No.: 9614.1080 )

AMENDMENT AND  
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE  
STATEMENT

#1C  
Answers  
12/24/02

**CERTIFICATE OF MAILING PURSUANT TO 37 C.F.R. §1.8**

I hereby certify that this paper is being deposited in the U.S. Postal Service as first class mail with sufficient postage addressed to Commissioner for Patents, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, Washington D.C. 20231, on 12/11/02, in San Francisco, CA.

By: MJ

Commissioner for Patents  
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office  
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TECHNOLOGY CENTER R3700

Dear Sir:

In response to the Office Action mailed September 20, 2002 having a response due by December 20, 2002, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS

Please cancel without prejudice claims 25-28.

Please add the following new claims 52-56:

52. (New) A stent, comprising:

a) ~~an expandable tubular stent body having a first ring section at a first end, a second ring section at a second end and at least one ring section intermediate the first and second ring sections; and~~

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